



U.S. Department of Justice

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Man Sentenced to 42 Years in October 2008 Slaying - Fired Repeated Shots at Defenseless Victim -**

WASHINGTON - Rashawn M. King, 18, recently was sentenced to 42 years of incarceration for the October 2008 murder of a 21-year-old District of Columbia man. The sentencing took place Sept. 10, 2010 before the Honorable Judge Herbert B. Dixon Jr. in the Superior Court for the District of Columbia and was announced by U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr.

King, of the District, was found guilty by a jury on July 1, 2010 of first-degree murder, possession of a firearm during a crime of violence, and carrying a pistol without a license, in the murder of James Hill.

The government's evidence at trial established that the victim was visiting friends in the area of Half Street and N Street, SW on the evening of October 14, 2008. King approached the victim and asked for \$50 related to a medallion that was given to the victim several months earlier. The victim told King that he did not have any money and would give King the money after he got paid by his job.

King walked away, retrieved a 9mm semi-automatic pistol, and returned to the area where Hill and his friends were standing. King demanded that Hill pay him \$50, pulled out the gun, and then shot the victim repeatedly as he stood defenseless. After the victim fell to the ground, King stood over him and shot him several more times in the back before running away. Hill died in the arms of one of his friends. King was apprehended 10 days later after committing an armed carjacking and armed robbery and engaging in a high-speed chase with police through rush-hour traffic. King was convicted in October 2009 of the armed carjacking, armed robbery, and related offenses.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen commended the work of those who worked on the case from the Metropolitan Police Department, including Detectives Dwayne Jackson, Thomas Austin-Braxton, Harbin Combee, Robert Saunders and Don Monroe, Sgt. Kimberly Lawrence, Officer Jeffrey Weber of the First District, and Crime Scene Search Officer Keith Slaughter. He also commended the work of U.S. Attorney Office employees Leif Hickling of the Litigation Support Services Unit, Paralegals Kelly Blakeney and Sharon Newman, Criminal Investigator Lawrence Grasso, Marcy Rinker of the Victim Witness Assistance Unit, and Assistant U.S. Attorneys Jennifer Kerkhoff and Todd Gee, who prosecuted

this case at trial.

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